

~~(b) an enzyme inhibitor for inhibiting activity of said enzyme; and~~

~~(c) a substrate with which the enzyme reacts, said components (a)-(c) being maintained separate and apart and mixed together only with a sample containing the target antigen or antibody.~~

Sub 2
~~2. (Amended) The immunoassay reagent as recited in claim 1, wherein a first reagent contains said insoluble carrier in (a) above, and a second reagent contains said enzyme inhibitor and said substrate in (b) and (c) above.~~

Sub C2
~~3. (Twice Amended) An immunoassay reagent for use in quantitative determination of a target antigen or antibody present in a sample, said reagent comprising the following components:~~

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~~(a) an insoluble carrier which carries an enzyme inhibitor and an antibody or antigen reactive with said target antigen or antibody, said insoluble carrier comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of an organic polymer powder particle, microorganism, blood cell and cell membrane fragment;~~

~~(b) an enzyme whose activity is inhibited by said enzyme inhibitor; and~~

~~(c) a substrate with which the enzyme reacts, said components (a)-(c) being maintained separate and apart and sequentially mixed together only with a sample of target antigen or antibody.~~

~~4. (Amended) The immunoassay reagent as recited in Claim 3, wherein a first reagent contains said insoluble carrier, a second reagent contains said enzyme, and a third reagent contains said~~

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substrate.

Sub 3
11. (Twice Amended) An immunoassay method for quantitatively determining a target antigen or antibody present in a sample, comprising:

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mixing the immunoassay reagent of claim 1 with the sample to thereby facilitate an enzyme reaction and an antigen-antibody reaction resulting in agglutination of the insoluble carrier; and measuring the absorbance of resulting mixture as an index of an amount of target antigen or antibody in the sample.

Kindly add new Claims 12-16 as follows:

12. The immunoassay reagent of claim 3, wherein said insoluble carrier further contains a magnetic or magnetizable material.

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13. The immunoassay reagent of claim 3, containing plural different combinations in type of said antibody or antigen, enzyme and substrate.

14. The immunoassay reagent of claim 3, wherein said enzyme inhibitor is an antibody against said enzyme.

15. The immunoassay reagent as recited in claim 14, wherein said antibody against the enzyme is a monoclonal antibody.

16. An immunoassay method for quantitatively determining a target antigen or antibody present in a sample, comprising;

sequentially mixing components (a)-(c) of the immunoassay reagent of claim 3 by first mixing component (a) with a sample

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containing a target antigen or antibody resulting in aggregations of insoluble carrier, thereafter mixing component (b) and then component (c), resulting in a change in absorbance based on the amount of target antigen or antibody in the sample, and then measuring the absorbance of resulting mixture as an index of an amount of target antigen or antibody in the sample.
